

In the Claims

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend pending claim 15 as noted below.

1. - 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method for analyzing an object comprising:
prescanning with an X-ray prescanner the object to determine first information about the object;

performing a computed tomography scan of the item to determine second information about the object; and

analyzing the second information to determine whether to update the first information.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the prescanning is performed before performing the computed tomography scan.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first information relates to mass information about the object.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the second information relates to density information about at least one plane of the object.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the prescan information relates to an effective atomic number of the object.

20. (Original) A method for analyzing contents of an item comprising acts of:

prescanning the item using an X-ray device to determine first information indicative of a location of a target object;

performing a computed tomography scan of a plane intersecting the target object to determine second information indicative of density characteristics of the target object; and

transmitting the second information to a processor to determine whether to modify the first information.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the act of transmitting includes transmitting the second information to a processor within the X-ray device.

22. (Original) An apparatus for analyzing an object, the apparatus comprising:
an X-ray device that prescans the object; and
a computed tomography device that scans selected areas of the object;
wherein information indicative of density characteristics of the object are transmitted from the computed tomography device to the X-ray device.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the X-ray device includes a processor.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the X-ray device has a high energy X-ray source and a low energy X-ray source.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising a conveyor for transporting the item between the X-ray device and the computed tomography device.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the computed tomography device is a multiple energy computed tomography device.

27. (Original) An apparatus for analyzing an object comprising:
an X-ray device to determine first information about the object;

a computed tomography device to scan a plane of the object based on the first information to determine second information; and

a processor that analyzes the first and second information to determine whether to update the first information based on the second information.

28. (Original) A method comprising:
prescanning an item using a multiple energy X-ray device to determine first information;
transmitting the first information to a computed tomography device;
performing a computed tomography scan on a plane of the item using the computed tomography device based on the first information to determine second information; and
transmitting the second information to the multiple energy X-ray device.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein performing includes performing a computed tomography scan using a multiple energy computed tomography device.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein transmitting the first information to a computed tomography device includes transmitting information indicative of effective atomic number characteristics of the item.

31. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein transmitting the second information to the multiple energy X-ray device includes transmitting information indicative of density characteristics of the item.

32. (Original) An apparatus that analyzes contents of an object comprising:
a multiple energy X-ray device that prescans the object to determine first information;
a computed tomography device, coupled to the X-ray device, that performs a scan on at least one plane of the object based on the first information to determine second information; and
a processor that analyzes the first and second information to determine whether to update the first information based on the second information.